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Seung

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/828,575 04/04/01 SCHMIDT

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EXAMINER

HYEON, H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED:

11/07/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/828,575

Applicant(s)

SCHMIDT ET AL.

Examiner

Hae Moon Hyeon

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 18 and 19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-14, 20 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 15-17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 April 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because "a plurality of dividers" recited on page 9, line 15 does not have reference number in the specification and the drawings. Therefore, it is difficult to identify the dividers.

Correction is required.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- In the Preliminary Amendment A filed on April 4, 2001, insert -- now US Patent No. 6,234,836 -- after "June 7, 1999."
- On page 9, line 13, "the first side 100" should be -- the first side 98 --

Appropriate correction is required.

3. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: It seems that the end of the paragraph (B) is missing the word such as comprising, having, or including.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

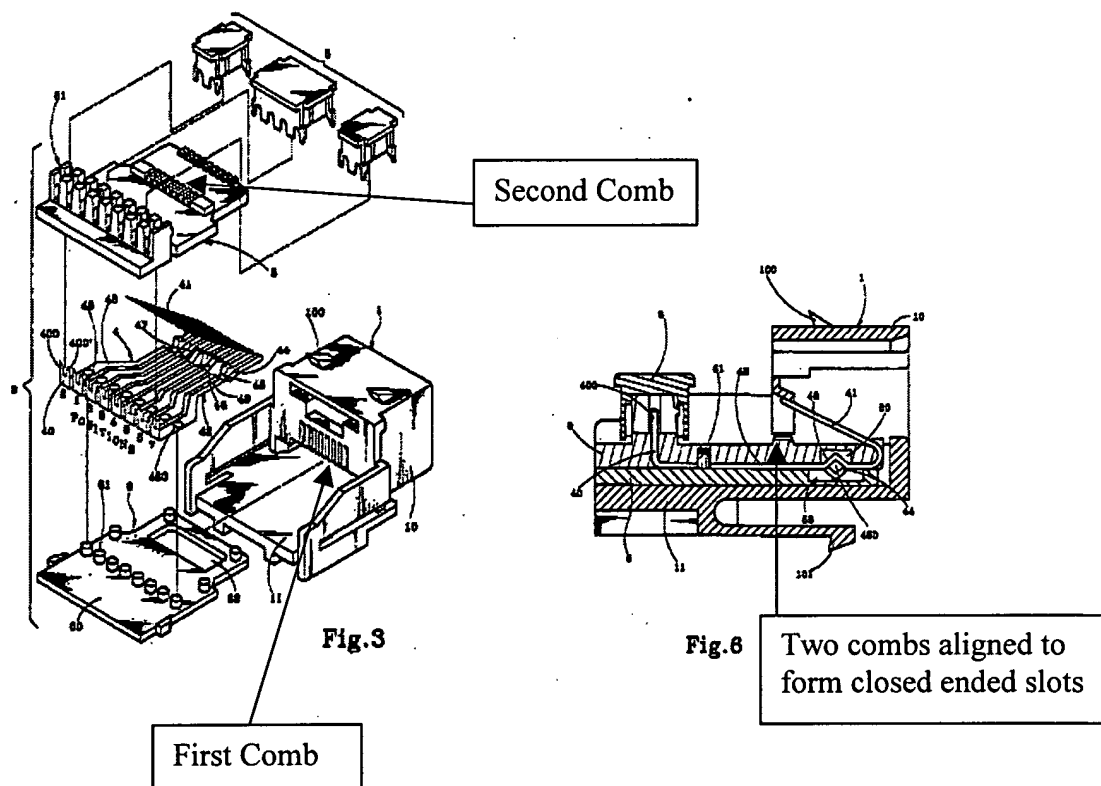
6. Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by White et al (5,503,572).

White discloses an insert for a jack comprising a connector mount, an insulation displacement terminal housing 38, a plurality of contact springs 30, a plurality of insulation displacement terminals 12, and a circuit board 24. The connector mount has a main body 10 including a first side positioned opposite from a second side. The connector mount also includes a snap-fit connection structure 45 and a divider 37, 58 and the insulation displacement housing 38 positioned at the first side of the main body 10. The contact springs 30 are separated by the divider 37 and the insulation displacement terminals 12 are housed in the insulation displacement housing 38. The contact spring 30 includes a base end portions 34 and free end portions 36, and wherein the divider includes one comb 37 that received the base end portion 34, and a second comb 58 that aligns with the free end portions 36. The circuit board 24 provides electrical connections between the insulation displacement terminals 12 and the contact springs 30. The circuit board 24 is mounted at the second side of the main body 10. The column 4, lines 41-55 states that the snap-fit connection structure 45 is a tooth that fits in a recess 54. Figure 1 clearly shows that the snap-fit connection structure 45 is flexible lever member and the divider 37, 58 is positioned generally between the flexible lever members.

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7. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen (5,403,200).

Chen discloses a jack 1 comprising: a jack housing 10 defining a port sized for receiving a plug; a plurality of contact springs 4 including base end portions 42 and free end portions 41; and two separate and opposing comb structures for isolating the free end portion 41 of the springs from one another, the opposing comb structures being relatively aligned so as to generally form closed ended slots in which the free end portions of the contact springs 4 are received.



Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 14 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arnett (5,041,018).

Arnett discloses a jack 200 comprising a jack housing 20 for mounting within an opening 15 of a faceplate 10. The jack housing 20 has a total width w_t and includes a first retaining structure 21, 22 positioned opposite from a second retaining structure. The first and second retaining structures 21, 22 include spaced apart retaining shoulders separated by a gap. The shoulders have a width w_s and the gap has a width w_g , which is smaller than each of the widths w_s . The jack 200 also includes a resilient cantilever member 23 having a base end positioned opposite from a free end. The base end is integrally connected with the jack housing 20 and the free end is positioned within the gap. The cantilever member 23 has a width w_c which is at least twice smaller than the total width w_t of the jack housing 20. The cantilever member 23 includes a retaining tab 24 positioned near the free end. However, the retaining tab 24 engages a front side of the faceplate 10 instead of a back side of the faceplate 10 and the retaining shoulders engage the back side of the faceplate 10.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to reverse the position of the retaining tab and the retaining shoulder such that the retaining tab engages the back side of the faceplate and the retaining shoulders engage the front side of the faceplate because it has been held that a mere reversal of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Einstein*, 8 USPQ 167.

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claims 1-10, 18, and 19 are allowed.
11. Claims 15-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
12. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: all the prior arts do not show a jack comprising a jack housing and an insert assembly. The jack housing has first and a second retaining structures, a resilient cantilever member, front and back portions and a first comb. The insert assembly has a connector mount including a first side, a second side opposite of the first side, two resilient locking tabs, a second comb, and an insulation displacement terminal housing and a plurality of contact springs, a plurality of insulation displacement terminals and a circuit board. The back portion of the jack housing defines an opening channel that extends in a rearward direction from the front portion. The circuit board is mounted at the second side of the connector mount and disposed in the opening channel of the jack housing. The cantilever member includes a main body and wings that project transversely outward from opposite sides of the main body. The jack housing includes deflection limiting surfaces positioned to engage the wings when the cantilever member has been deflected a first amount, wherein contact between the wings and the deflection limiting surfaces prevents the cantilever member from being over deflected.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US Patent No. 4,556,264 by Tanaka, US Patent No. 5,238,426 by Arnett, US Patent No. 5,791,935 by Yamanashi, US Patent No. 5,947,772 by Arnett et al., US Patent No. 6,089,909 by Tokuwa, US Patent No. 6,089,923 by Phommachanh, US Patent No. 6,102,722 by Arnett, and US Patent No. 6,270,358 B1.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hae Moon Hyeon whose telephone number is 703-308-4802. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. (8:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on 703-308-3119. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

hnh hnh
November 1, 2001


BRIAN SIRCUS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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